

# Town of Easton

## Residential Sharps Program



▶ In Massachusetts, an estimated 2 millions needles are used each week in residential settings due to chronic diseases and medical conditions



▶ People who are exposed to sharps face the possibilities of a painful injury and the risk of contracting diseases. All needle stick injuries must be treated as if the needle were infected with disease, leading to the costs and anxieties of medical testing and treatment.



▶ Up to 800,000 people are injured from improperly handled and discarded sharps every year in the country.

Effective July 1, 2012 the State of Massachusetts has banned the disposal of sharps in household

While the law does not require that Towns take an active role in providing a safe and legal method of disposal for their residents, the Town of Easton feels it would be irresponsible to not offer guidance with this new requirement.

As a result of a cooperative effort between the departments who routinely deal with these issues and the populations they effect we are happy to offer the following options.



### Annual Collection Day

In cooperation with our Household Hazardous Waste Day vendor we will be able to accept sharps that are secured in capped, puncture resistant plastic containers, such as laundry detergent bottles, on the same day as the annual household hazardous waste day at another location in Town. **No loose sharps will be accepted at this collection.**

**DONATE!** Unused, unopened, unexpired needles can often be donated to wildlife rescues such as the NE Wildlife Center in Weymouth, MA.

[Click here](#) to see about **Pharmaceutical Takeback Container Programs (Safe Needle Disposal) options!**

### Container Purchase and Return Program:

Easton residents will be able to purchase a sharps container from the Town at the sites listed below during normal office hours. The cost of these containers includes disposal. **Containers can be returned to Fire Station 3 (413 Bay Rd) when full or no longer needed.** Rigid, leak-proof biohazard containers, not purchased from the town will also be accepted for a fee at Station 3, The fee will be set based on the size of the container. Call for a price on your container.

## Sharps Container Distribution Sites

Easton Fire Department  
Station 3  
413 Bay Road  
508-230-0750  
M – TH 8:00AM - 4:00 PM  
F 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM  
Closed 12-1 pm

Easton Board of Health  
136 Elm Street  
508-230-0620  
M - TH 8:30AM -4:30PM  
Monday evenings, pls call.  
F 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Easton Council On Aging  
15 Barrows Street  
508-238-3160  
M – F 8:00AM - 4:00PM